### Corporate Income Tax Electronic Funds Transfer Payments

Informational Bulletin

March 2003



### For information or forms...

- ◆Call us at:
  - 1 800 732-8866 or
  - 217 782-3336
- ◆Call our TDD

(telecommunications device for the deaf) at:

- 1 800 544-5304
- Write us at:

Illinois Department of Revenue P.O. Box 19044

Springfield, IL 62794-9044

- ♦Visit our Web site at: www.lLtax.com
- ◆Call

"Illinois Tax Fax," our fax-on-demand service, at:

217 785-3400

◆Call

our 24-hour

Forms Order Line at:

1 800 356-6302

#### To:

Taxpayers mandated to make corporate estimated tax payments and automatic extension payments by Electronic **Funds Transfer (EFT)** 

This bulletin serves as a reminder to all taxpayers mandated by law to make quarterly estimated payments and automatic extension payments for corporate income and replacement tax purposes by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). This includes payments that were previously made on Form IL-1120-ES and Form IL-505-B.

You do not have the option of making your payments by mail or any other means, other than Automated Clearing House debit (ACH debit) or Automated Clearing House credit (ACH credit), and Fedwire, allowed only in case of an emergency. In addition, if we receive your payment after the due date, we will assess a late-payment penalty.

#### What is EFT?

EFT is an electronic payment method that you use to pay your tax liabilities. Instead of writing a check for the amount of tax due, you authorize financial institutions to deduct funds from your bank account and credit those funds to ours.

EFT only changes the manner in which certain types of tax payments are made. It does not change the due dates when tax payments and tax returns are required.

#### Who is mandated to use EFT?

You must participate in the EFT program if your annual tax liability is \$200,000 or more.

#### What EFT payment options do I have?

You have two primary options for payment by EFT, along with one emergency backup option.

- ♦ Automated Clearing House Debit (ACH debit);
- Automated Clearing House Credit (ACH credit); and
- ♦ Fedwire, only as an emergency backup option.

ACH **debit** is the electronic transfer of funds from your account when you instruct our data collection service to transfer the funds. The funds then clear the ACH and are deposited in our account.

ACH credit is an electronic transfer that occurs when you tell your own financial institution to originate an entry for deposit in our account. We recommend that you contact your bank to determine what ACH services they offer before you choose this option.

Fedwire is an option we offer only as an emergency backup. If for some reason you are unable to

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initiate an ACH debit or ACH credit in order to be considered timely, Fedwire is the only alternative electronic method available to avoid late-payment penalty and interest.

# What happens if my payment is not deposited by the due date?

If your payment is not deposited by the due date, we will assess a late-payment penalty of up to 15 percent.

See Booklet EFT-8, Electronic Funds Transfer Guide, for more information regarding when and how you should set up your payments to ensure that they are received timely.

# Should I send my vouchers to the Illinois Department of Revenue?

No. When you make your payments via EFT, do not send the paper copies of the IL-1120-ES voucher or Form IL-505-B to us.

You may wish to write your EFT payment confirmation information on your paper vouchers and keep them in your records for future reference.

## Do I still need to file my tax returns?

Yes. Making your payments via EFT does not take the place of filing your annual tax returns. You must still file Form IL-1120 and make any remaining tax payment with that return.